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PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 7552.0029

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Roberto NERI) Group Art Unit: 3762
)
Application No.: 10/804,147) Examiner: Unassigned
)
Filed: March 19, 2004)
)
For: A DEVICE FOR PROTECTING) Confirmation No.: 3611
MEDICAL APPARATUS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in addition to the Information Disclosure Statement filed on July 20, 2004. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicant brings to the attention of the Examiner the documents on the attached listing. To the knowledge of the undersigned, this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed foreign and non-patent literature documents are attached.
Copies of the U.S. patent publications are not enclosed.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

English translations of the non-English documents are enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicant determines that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: February 4, 2005

By: 
Aaron L. Parker
Reg. No. 50,785

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

1

of

1

Application Number

10/804,147

Filing Date

March 19, 2004

First Named Inventor

Roberto NERI

Art Unit

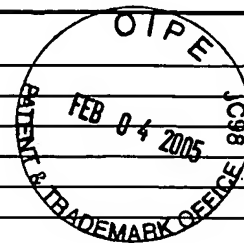
3762

Examiner Name

Unassigned

Attorney Docket Number

7552.0029



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U.S. PATENTS AND PUBLISHED U.S. PATENT APPLICATIONS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Issue or Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-4,493,693	01/15/1985	Bilstad et al.	
		US-5,458,586	10/17/1995	Adiletta	
		US-6,168,653	01/02/2001	Myers	
		US-2003/0040687	02/27/2003	Boynton et al.	
		US-			
		US-			

Note: Copies of the U.S. Patent Documents are not Required in IDS filed after October 21, 2004**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		DE 19816871	10/21/1999	Sartorius GmbH		Yes
		DE 3126850	03/11/1982	Sartorius GmbH		Yes
		EP 0536297 (WO 92/00132)	04/14/1993	Coulter Corporation		
		EP 1097725	05/09/2001	GVS S.r.l.		
		GB 2168263	06/18/1986	Sartorius GmbH		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/IB2004/000763	

Examiner
SignatureDate
Considered